

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJ: ROMANOV AS THE ZHDANOV OF THE 1970'S?

1. CONGEN NOTES WITH INTEREST THAT LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA, THE PARTY ORGAN, PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE ON MARCH 10 ON THE OCCASION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF ANDREY ALEKSANDROVICH ZHDANOV, THE WELL-KNOWN LENINGRAD AND CENTRAL PARTY FIGURE WHO DIED IN 1948. WE DO NOT WISH TO MAKE TOO MUCH OF SMOLNOLOGY, BUT CERTAIN PHRASES IN ARTICLE INVITE COMPARISON WITH ROMANOV AND, MOREOVER, ARTICLE APPEARS SOME TWO WEEKS AFTER ACTUAL ANNIVERSARY OF ZHDANOV'S BIRTH (FEBRUARY 26, 1896). IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT PUBLICATION WAS PUT OFF UNTIL ROMANOV RECEIVED HIS FULL MEMBERSHIP ON POLITBURO AND, THUS, "SUCCEEDED" THE HALLOWED ZHDANOV.

2. ARTICLE IS ENTITLED "TRUE SON OF THE PARTY" AND AUTHOR IS A. KRYUKOVSKIKH, SCIENTIFIC SECRETARY OF THE OBKOM'S INSTITUTE OF PARTY HISTORY. ZHDANOV IS HAILED AS A BRILLIANT ORGANIZER OF THE MASSES, A TALENTED PROPAGANDIST OF THE PARTY'S IDEAS, AND AN ACTIVE FIGHTER FOR PEACE. AUTHOR MANAGES TO PRESENT ZHDANOV FIRST AND FOREMOST AS A LENINGRADER AND STRESSES FACT THAT HE "TIRELESSLY STRUGGLED FOR TECHNICAL PROGRESS, PASSIONATELY SUPPORTED EVERYTHING NEW AND ADVANCED, CONSTANTLY CONCERNED HIMSELF WITH IMPROVING THE MATERIAL AND CULTURAL CONDITIONS OF THE LIFE OF LENINGRADERS." AUTHOR BRINGS UNSPOKEN ANALOGY WITH ROMANOV QUITE CLOSE CLOSE WITH FURTHER OBSERVANCE THAT

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ZHDANOV DEVOTED GREAT ATTENTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING

OF NATIONAL SHIPBUILDING. ANOTHER ROMANOV EMPHASIS, EDUCATION OF WORKERS, GETS A PLUG WITH THE REMARK THAT ZHDANOV DEVOTED MUCH EFFORT TO THE EDUCATION OF THE YOUNG GENERATION OF LENINGRADERS. OTHER PASSAGES IN ARTICLE PRAISE ZHDANOV'S WAR EFFORTS.

3. FINALLY, AN INTERESTING PORTION OF ARTICLE SPEAKS OF ZHDANOV'S CONTRIBUTIONS AS A CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY FROM 1944 UNTIL HIS DEATH AND THEN ADDS FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "BUT HIS TIES WITH LENINGRAD AND WITH THE LENINGRAD PARTY ORGANIZATION WERE NOT INTERRUPTED...HE WAS ONE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF LENINGRAD IN THE SUPREME SOVIET."

4. CONGEN IS STRUCK BY EXTENT TO WHICH MANY OF AUTHOR'S PAEANS TO ZHDANOV COULD APPLY TO PUTATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS OF ROMANOV. WE IMAGINE THAT MANY INTERESTED LENINGRADERS COULD EASILY APPLY ARTICLE'S TITLE TO ROMANOV HIMSELF--A TRUE SON OF THE PARTY AND, ALWAYS IMPORTANT HERE, A TRUE SON OF LENINGRAD.
NEUBERT

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